

Olaf P. Jenkins, Chief Geologist, California State Division of Mines; Dr. Chauncey D. Leake, Professor of Pharmacology, University of California; Dean Donald H. McLaughlin, School of Mines, University of California; Dr. Eliot G. Mears, Professor of International Trade, Stanford University; Mr. Herbert E. Ormsby, Director of Research, California State Chamber of Commerce; Dr. Harald U. Sverdrup, Director of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography; Dr. F. W. Weymouth, Professor of Physiology, Stanford University; Dr. Richard Van Cleave, Chief, Bureau of Marine Fisheries, California Division of Fish and Game. Dr. Robert C. Miller, Director of the California Academy of Sciences, who is serving as chairman of the Committee, states that it is probable a few other persons will be added. The work of this Committee will be integrated with that of the State Council of Defense through those persons who are members of both bodies.

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CURATOR ELECTED AUDUBON DIRECTOR

AT THE last annual meeting of the National Audubon Society, held in New York, Mr. James Moffitt, Curator of the Academy's Department of Birds and Mammals, had the distinction of being elected a director to serve for a three-year term of office. Mr. Moffitt has been active in Audubon affairs for a number of years, serving during the year 1941 as president of the Audubon Association of the Pacific. He attended the second annual convention of the National Audubon and affiliated California societies held January 22-25, 1942, at Santa Barbara.

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STUDENT MEMBERS MEET MARCH 6

ON FRIDAY EVENING, March 6, student members of the Academy will meet in Room 214, second floor of the Simson African Hall, in Golden Gate Park, at 8:00 o'clock. Following a short business meeting the group will visit and learn something of the work of the departments of Ornithology and Mammalogy, and Herpetology.

JOSEPH DONOHUE GRANT, a member of the Academy since 1881, and a Trustee since 1906, passed away on February 19, in his eighty-fourth year. Mr. Grant had been re-elected a Trustee the day before his death.

An account of Mr. Grant's career will be found in the NEWS LETTER for May, 1941.

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TOURING LOWER CALIFORNIA

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March Announcement

THE REGULAR MARCH MEETING of the California Academy of Sciences will be held in Room 214, SIMSON AFRICAN HALL on WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, March 4, 1942, at 3:30 o'clock. The speaker will be Dr. Edward S. Ross, Assistant Curator of the Department of Entomology of the California Academy of Sciences, whose subject will be

SCIENTIFIC EXPLORATION IN BAJA CALIFORNIA

To the biologist an island is not necessarily a tract of land completely surrounded by water. For him that is just one kind of island, and he will cite others surrounded by dry land and often located in the middle of a continent. Such islands may be termed "biological islands" because they represent land areas possessing plants and animals which are as effectively isolated, by deserts or by different life-zones, as they would be if surrounded by water.

It was the desire to explore one of these biological islands that led Dr. Ross and a party of four others to undertake an expedition to the Sierra Laguna of the Cape region of Lower California during the latter part of 1941. On this "island," a series of mountain peaks rising to nearly 7000 feet in elevation, surrounded by a sea of arid-tropical jungle, the party explored a fauna and flora much like that of the California foothills, isolated by at least 600 miles of peninsula from any comparable biota.

The selection of Kodachrome slides used to illustrate the lecture will feature scenes from the Sierra Laguna, as well as pictures taken throughout the 3000-mile round-trip to Cape San Lucas by truck. The expedition made numerous stops en route, one of which is illustrated on the preceding page.



APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

NOTICE is hereby given to all Corporate Members that the Council at its meeting, February 20, 1942, approved the applications of Dr. Robert B. Aird, Mr. Worthen Bradley, Mr. Thomas A. Brook, Dr. J. Emit Cox, Mr. Emil Greenebaum, Mr. P. C. Haeseler, Mr. Ernest A. Hahl, Dr. Joseph S. Hollister, Dr. Robert M. Kleinpell, Mrs. Dorothy Dean Sheldon, Dr. Fletcher B. Taylor, and Mr. Paul C. Wilbur for MEMBERSHIP and Mr. William Ferguson, Mr. Robert Fischer, Miss Maxine White, and Mr. Harold Wolf for STUDENT MEMBERSHIP in the California Academy of Sciences. If no objection to the election of these applicants be received at the office of the Academy within two weeks after February 26, 1942, they will be considered elected.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS ANNOUNCED AT ANNUAL MEETING

ON WEDNESDAY EVENING, February 18, the Annual Meeting of the California Academy of Sciences was held in the Simson African Hall. The annual reports of the President, the Treasurer, the Director, and those of the Curators of the various departments were read.

The election of the following officers was announced:

Joseph D. Grant, *Trustee*; F. M. MacFarland, *President*; M. E. Lombardi, *First Vice-President*; E. P. Meinecke, *Second Vice-President*; Charles L. Camp, *Corresponding Secretary*; Olaf P. Jenkins, *Recording Secretary*; and Francis P. Farquhar, *Treasurer*.



MISS EASTWOOD ELECTED AN HONORARY MEMBER

AT THE Annual Meeting on February 18, Miss Alice Eastwood, Curator of the Department of Botany since 1892, was elected an Honorary Member of the California Academy of Sciences, in recognition of her distinguished position in science and her fifty years of service to the Academy. Election to honorary membership is the highest recognition the Academy can bestow.



COMMITTEE ON LATENT NATURAL RESOURCES

AT THE meeting of the Academy's Council held on January 16, 1942, the Recording Secretary, Dr. Olaf P. Jenkins, submitted a plan for organizing research work especially needed in the present National emergency. The plan, which was promptly and unanimously adopted by the Council, may be summarized in part as follows:

(1) That the Director of the Academy initiate, organize, direct, and put into immediate execution a Committee on Latent Natural Resources. (2) That this Committee operate informally, directly, and effectively without the formality of time-consuming meetings and without requiring long, burdensome written or printed reports, at least until a later time when accumulated data are nearly ready for publication. (3) That this Committee be comprised of leaders of institutions and departments of research and industry. (4) That the purpose of this Committee be twofold: (a) to establish a clearinghouse of information on natural products needed by industries and other consumers, with a knowledge of past sources of these products; (b) to encourage research on new sources of materials and on the availability of natural resources not now fully utilized. (5) That the members of the Committee, its sub-committees, and all interested persons be encouraged to undertake the study of problems most urgent at the present time, even though such action should necessitate holding in abeyance other research programs which may not be of such immediate importance.

Organization of this Committee has proceeded rapidly, and its work is already in progress even in advance of the completion of the organization. The personnel of the Committee at this writing consists of President Ray Lyman Wilbur, Stanford University; Mr. Kenneth I. Fulton, State Director of Natural Resources; Dean Ewald T. Grether, School of Commerce, University of California; Dr.